

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 13, 17, 18, 21, and 23 are pending.

Claims 3, 4, 7-12, 14-16, 19, 20, and 22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

An objection to claim 19 was made. The objection is moot for the reason that claim 19 has been canceled.

Claim 16 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd Paragraph. The objection is moot for the reason that claim 16 has been canceled.

Claims 1-3, 6, 13-18, 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) for allegedly being anticipated by Takizawa (US 6,034,849).

Claims 5 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) for allegedly being unpatentable over Takizawa (US 6,034,849).

An aspect of the present invention is that the first and second magneto resistive elements are disposed on the slider. Claim 1, for example, recites a magnetic head on which first and second magneto-resistive (MR) elements are disposed, adjacent to one another.

Takizawa was cited in Fig. 1 for showing the present invention. However, Fig. 1 of Takizawa does not show a magnetic head having MR elements. They show a portion of a "row" of MR components sliced from a die of MR components. In fact, Takizawa clearly state that Fig. 1 is a plan view of a magnetic head "during the manufacture." *Col. 2, lines 34-35 and lines 59-60*. The figure shows dashed lines. These dashed lines are conventionally understood to be cut lines along which a cutting operation is performed to obtain the part which is the magnetic head. As explained by Takizawa,

"Referring to FIG. 1, a thin film magnetic head element 1a constituting a thin film magnetic head 1 is formed on a substrate, and an electric lap monitor 2 and a four point probe reference resistance 3 are alternately formed on the chip cut surface of the thin film magnetic head element 1a."

Takizawa clearly identifies the thin film magnetic head (1) as being the thin film magnetic head element (1a); see also Fig. 8A. Takizawa also mentions that Fig. 1 also shows an

electric lap monitor (2). By comparison to the claimed invention, Takizawa does not show thin film magnetic head comprising a first MR element and a second MR element. The thin film magnetic head (1) shown in Fig. 1 of Takizawa shows only a single MR element. The Section 102 rejection of the claims is believed to be overcome for at least this reason.

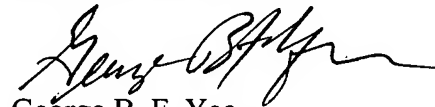
Moreover, and irrespective of where the location of the first and second MR elements, Takizawa do not show a thin film magnetic head wherein a first MR element thereof has a structure substantially the same as a second MR element thereof. Firstly, as discussed above, Takizawa do not show a thin film magnetic head having two (first and second) MR elements. Secondly, assuming *arguendo* that Takizawa shows first and second MR elements, that reference does not show that the second MR element is substantially the same structure as the first MR element. Therefore, the Section 102 rejection of the claims, again, is believed to be overcome for at least this reason.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, all claims now pending in this Application are believed to be in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



George B. F. Yee
Reg. No. 37,478

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 415-576-0300
GBFY:djb/cmm
60483693 v1